

NURSING AIDES, ORDERLIES, and ATTENDANTS provide general care to patients in hospitals, nursing homes, residential care facilities and other medical health settings under the supervision of nursing and medical staff. Nursing Aides may also be called nurse assistants, certified nursing assistants, or hospital attendants. Routine tasks include taking and recording patient's temperature, pulse, respiration rate, and blood pressure, measuring food and liquid intake and output; and reporting changes to the medical staff. They also answer patient calls for assistance, take messages, serve meals, make beds, and assist patients in bathing, dressing, and personal hygiene.

Requirements

- ▲ Must be at least 16 years old.
- ▲ Must be healthy.
- ▲ Ability to lift patients.
- ▲ Good verbal ability.
- ▲ Desire to help others.
- ▲ Ability to work well with others.
- ▲ Successful completion of a state-approved Nursing Assistant Program.
- ▲ Pass a state nursing assistant certification and competency exam.
- ▲ Fingerprint clearance is required.

Wages

- ▲ Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants
Median hourly wage: \$11.12
- ▲ Average annual wage: \$24,707

Source: Occupational Employment Survey of Employers 2006 by EDD/LMID.

Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants

Job Outlook

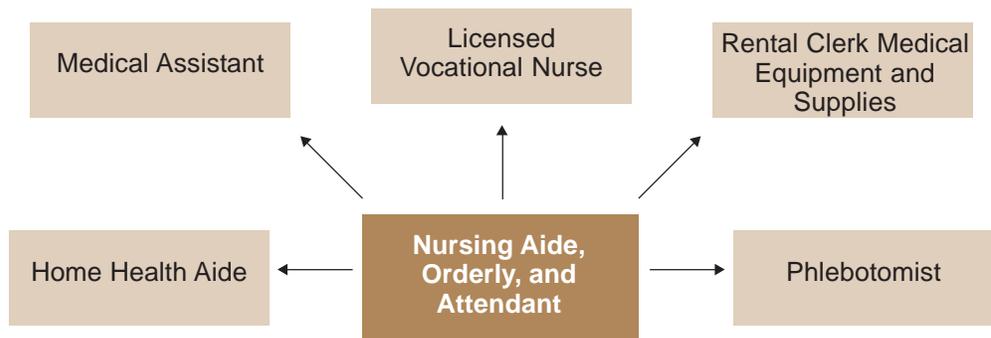
- ▲ Estimated number of Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants in 2004: 106,600
- ▲ Estimated number of Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants in 2014: 131,600
- ▲ Estimated annual job openings: 3,900

Source: Occupational Projections, EDD/LMID.

Sources of Information

- ▲ Department of Health Services
Licensing and Certification
(916) 327-2445
www.dhs.ca.gov/lnc/cert
- ▲ *California Occupational Guide*, No. 442
Nursing Aides and Orderlies

Possible Career Paths



The skills, knowledge, and abilities acquired for the primary occupation provide a solid foundation for further growth in health career occupations. Additional education or training is often required.